



Senator Gordon Smith, Co-Chair  
Senator Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Co-Chair

Congressman Bob Goodlatte, Co-Chair  
Congressman Adam Schiff, Co-Chair

## **The Congressional International Anti-Piracy Caucus**

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### **International Anti-Piracy Caucus Calls on World's 'Worst Offenders' to Combat This Growing Problem**

*Plans to Request Meetings with Ambassadors from Those Five Countries*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.:** - The International Anti-Piracy Caucus today called on countries comprising the International Anti-Piracy Watch List to significantly increase efforts to combat the piracy that has severely harmed the legitimate market for these copyrighted materials. In letters to the Heads of State of China, Russia, Brazil, Pakistan and Taiwan, the Caucus requested these respective governments work with the U.S. Government and with American rightholders to significantly reduce the scourge of piracy.

The Caucus also plans to request meetings with the Ambassadors of these 5 countries.

The Anti-Piracy Caucus is a bipartisan group of 65 leading House and Senate lawmakers, launched last year, which is dedicated to working with America's international trade partners to secure the enactment of strong copyright laws and the vigilant enforcement of those laws. The Congressional Co-Chairs of the Caucus are Senators Gordon Smith (R-OR) and Joseph R. Biden, Jr. (D-DE), and Congressmen Bob Goodlatte (R-VA) and Adam Schiff (D-CA).

America is the largest creator, producer, and exporter of copyrighted material.

The advent of digital technology holds the promise of a golden age for movies, music, video games and other forms of entertainment. More new devices for watching, listening to, recording, sharing and saving music and movies have emerged in the last decade than in the previous 100 years. These technologies are a key to American economic growth: indeed, the combined copyright industries – movies, home video and television programming, music, books, video games and software – generate more U.S. revenues than any other single manufacturing sector, including automobiles and auto parts, aircraft and agriculture. They are responsible for more

than five percent of the nation's GDP. The film industry alone has a surplus balance of trade with every country in the world.

Disturbingly, however, an explosion in piracy and a diminution in copyright protection have accompanied these exciting new advances in entertainment technology. Organized crime has become heavily involved in foreign DVD and CD piracy. Criminals are using the same formidable distribution network and resources that were developed for drug trafficking and arms smuggling. The result, in these and other countries, is a virtual evisceration of the legitimate market for American entertainment.

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